## **CLAIMS**

- 1. Footwear with a lace fastening comprising an opening (5) with a first edge (5a) and a second edge (5b) which are juxtaposed and each of which carries a respective plurality of lacing eyes, and at least two laces (20, 21) extending through respective pairs of the lacing eyes (11a,b-17a,b), characterized in that the ends of both of the laces converge on both of the edges of the opening, with at least one end of each lace (20, 21) extending through a respective end lacing eye (17a, b) of the fastening provided on each of the opposite edges.
- 2. Footwear according to Claim 1 in which the corresponding ends of each lace (20, 21) converge in respective and separate grips (23).
  - 3. Footwear according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 in which the laces are led through alternating lacing eyes of the respective pluralities of lacing eyes in a manner such that, between two lacing eyes (11a 13a; 13a- 15a; 15a-17a) of the same edge through which a first of the laces extends, there is at least one lacing eye (12a, 14a, 16a) of the same edge through which a second of the laces extends.
  - 4. Footwear according to one of more of the preceding claims in which the lacing eyes are of the closed-eye type.
- 5. Footwear according to one or more of the preceding claims in which means (22a, 22b) are provided for locking the laces and are active independently on each pair of the respective ends of laces converging in the same grip.
- 6. Footwear according to Claim 5 in which the locking means are of the constricting type.
  - 7. Footwear according to Claim 5 or Claim 6 in which the locking means are provided in the region of the respective end lacing eyes.